

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 02515 121159Z

64

ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 DODE-00

EB-07 NRC-05 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 L-03 /064 W

----- 107725

R 121057Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6308

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 02515

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESTC, BE, CA, IN, PK, BR, AR, JO, EG, AS

SUBJECT: MUNITIONS CONTROL -- HUGHES FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM

REF: (B) BRUSSELS 11284 (NOTAL), (B) BRUSSELS 11594 (NOTAL)

1. THE AMBASSADOR RECEIVED A LETTER DATED MARCH 2 FROM MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS HERMAN RE HUGHES FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM.

AS DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN INFORMED BY REFTELS, THEBELGIAN GOVERNMENT IS SEEKING TO EXTEND POSSIBLE MARKETING OF THIS SYSTEM TO ADDITIONAL THIRD COUNTRIES. THE EMBASSY'S UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF THE LETTER FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT: EXCELLENCY, I HAVE THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE TANK AUTOMATIC FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM CONSTRUCTED IN BELGIUM BY SABCA, WITH FINANCIAL HELP OF MY DEPARTMENT AND TECHNICAL HELP OF NATIONAL DEFENSE, CONCERNING AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM INVENTED BY HUGHES AIRCRAFT CORPORATION

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 02515 121159Z

WHICH HOLDS THE PATENT RIGHTS.

A LICENSE AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BETWEEN THE TWO FIRMS ON MARCH 11, 1969. SINCE THEN, THE OPERATIONAL SYSTEM HAS BEEN INSTALLED ON THE TANKS OF THE BELGIAN AND AUSTRALIAN ARMES.

THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT, AS YOUR GOVERNMENT DOES ON SIMILAR OCCASIONS, WISHES TO RECOVER THE FUNDS SPENT ON THIS DEVELOPMENT BY THE SALES OF THE SYSTEM TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

IT WISHES TO BROADEN THE LICENSE, ORIGINALLY RESTRICTED TO EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, TO ALL COUNTRIES ENVISAGING THE PURCHASE OF THE FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM IN BELGIUM.

THANKS TO THE KIND INTERVENTION OF YOUR SERVICES AND IN PARTICULAR OF MRS. PHILLIPS, FOR WHICH I THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. BOLAND WAS ABLE TO MEET WITH MESSRS. PARKER AND BASIL OF THE PENTAGON AND MR. ROBINSON OF THE DDEPARTMENT OF STATE (MUNITIONS CONTROL) ON JANUARY 9, 1975, IN WASHINGTON.

THE PROCEDURE ESTABLISHED BY MR. ROBINSON IS AS FOLLOWS:

(1) SABCA WILL SUBMIT A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR LICENSING AUTHORIZATION TO HUGHES AIRCRAFT APPLICABLE TO ALL COUNTRIES INTERESTED IN THE SYSTEM (SEE ENCLOSURE 1).

(2) HUGHES AIRCRAFT, BEING THE OWNER OF THE PATENT RIGHTS, WILL SUBMIT IT TO MR. ROBINSON.

(3) AT THE SAME TIME SABCA WILL OFFICIALLY TRANSMIT TO THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS A COPY OF ITS LETTER TO HUGHES.

(4) THE MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, AFTER HAVING ENDORSED THE LETTER, WILL SEND IT ON TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE THROUGH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN BRUSSELS AND THROUGH THE BELGIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

AS AGREED, SABCA ASKED HUGHES TO REQUEST AN EXTENSION OF THE VALIDITY OF ITS LICENSE FOR THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES:

CANADA - INDIA - PAKISTAN - BRAZIL - ARGENTINA - JORDAN - EGYPT

THE ABOVE COUNTRIES HAVE EXPRESSED A SERIOUS INTEREST IN THE SYSTEM CONSTRUCTED IN BELGIUM.

I WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL, YOUR EXCELLENCY, IF YOU WOULD SUPPORT THIS REQUEST WITH THE AUTHORITIES IN YOUR COUNTRY AND MORE PARTICULARLY WITH MR. ROBINSON.

I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO YOUR EXCELLENCY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 02515 121159Z

THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.
THE MINISTER, F. HERMAN. END TEXT.

2. EMBASSY IS POUCHING TO ROBINS (PM/MC) COPY OF ORIGINAL PLUS COPY OF LETTER FROM SABCA TO HUGHES INTERNATIONAL DATED JANUARY 26, 1976, ASKING HUGHES TO REQUEST US GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT TO EXTEND SALES TERRITORY COVERED UNDER LICENSING AGREEMENT.

3. COMMENT: IF US POLICY PERMITS, EMBASSY BELIEVES
THAT APPROVAL OF THIS REQUEST WOULD BE HELPFUL IN
IMPROVING ATMOSPHERE HERE, PARTICULARLY AS CONCERNS
F-16 AND AIRFV COPRODUCTION MATTERS. FIRESTONE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, FIRE SAFETY, STRATEGIC TRADE CONTROLS, MUNITIONS CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BRUSSE02515
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760094-1014
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760368/aaaachul.tel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION MC
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BRUSSELS 11284
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAR 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <31 MAR 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MUNITIONS CONTROL -- HUGHES FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM
TAGS: ESTC, BE, CA, IN, PK, BR, AR, JO, EG, AS, (HERMAN, F)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006